

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

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Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County

MONTHLY MEETING

AUGUST 13, 2004

MEMBERS PRESENT

CITY OF SEATTLE	KING COUNTY	UNITED WAY
<input type="checkbox"/> Thelma Coney	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gabriel Cohen, Vice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Martha Becker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Brekke	<input type="checkbox"/> Helen Spencer	<input type="checkbox"/> Will Parry
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adam John	<input type="checkbox"/> John Holecek	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Thelma Pegues
<input type="checkbox"/> Alexandra Tu	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Barnett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Timmie Faghin, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Verhei	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Moreland
<input type="checkbox"/> Larry Low, Secretary	<input type="checkbox"/> Steve Colwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suzanne Wiley
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Yeager, Member At Large	<input type="checkbox"/> Midge Levy
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant

Excused Absence Alexandra Tu, John Holecek, Thelma Coney, Larry Low, Will Parry, and Helen Spencer

Guests Eileen Murphy, Detective Diane Wherley, Sergeant Deb Nicohlson, Irma Farsch, and Irma Lobo

ADS Staff Pamela Piering, Selina Chow, Rosemary Cunningham, Joan Ebenal, Margaret Casey, and Ozell Bledsoe

United Way Staff Linda Woodall

MINUTES

Timmie Faghin, Chair convened the Advisory Council meeting at 12:00 p.m. She asked everyone attending to introduce themselves. Timmie asked if there were any requests for changes to the minutes or the order of the agenda. There were no requests for changes.

Action Taken: It was moved/seconded and passed that the July 9, 2004 minutes be approved as presented.

Timmie introduced the guest speakers: **Eileen Murphy**, Associate Director, Senior Service, **Diane Wherley**, Detective, Seattle Police Department and **Deb Nicohlson**, Sergeant, Seattle Police Department.

In association with the Area Agency on Aging for Seattle-King County and sponsored by:



City of Seattle



King County

PROGRAM TOPIC

THE GATEKEEPER AND ELDER ABUSE PROGRAMS

Eileen Murphy reported on the Gatekeeper Program and stated that since 1983 the Senior Information and Assistance Gatekeeper Program, based on a model created by Spokane Elder Services in 1979, has gained national recognition. The main purpose of the Gatekeeper Program is to involve community workers in identifying vulnerable older adults who need assistance and may otherwise be isolated from important services. She reported that the program does this by training individuals, who have contact with a wide cross-section of the public in the course of their regular work (i.e. utility meter readers, credit representatives, firefighters, police officers, bank tellers, apartment managers and postal carriers, etc), to identify an older adult in need and by connecting the older adult with community social and health services. Trainings are conducted at the office of the community workers for anywhere from 10-100 people at a time. Training includes a videotape, extensive written materials and a question and answer session. During the one-hour training session gatekeepers learn how to identify signs that older adults may be vulnerable: confusion, disorientation, forgetfulness or difficulty communicating; expressed difficulty in paying bills or handling money matters; expressions of being socially isolated or withdrawn; a pronounced change in physical appearance; lack of attention to hygiene and dress; severe impairment of vision, hearing, speaking or mobility; home is in disrepair, or with excessive clutter or garbage. Eileen also reported that to refer a client, gatekeepers telephone Senior I&A with the name, address and phone number of the older adult and provide as much detail about the situation as possible, including what they observed and any information about the client's formal or informal support system. I&A advocates refer the vulnerable older adults to the appropriate community services. She noted the cost of running the program is low, and the number of individuals helped is high. By identifying vulnerable older adults and beginning the process of connecting them with community services, gatekeepers assist senior citizens in maintaining independence and in many cases, lives are saved.

Det. Diane Wherley and **Sgt. Deb Nicholson** reported on the Elder Abuse program. Det. Wherley defined elder abuse as the infliction of physical, emotional, or psychological harm on an older adult. She reported elder abuse can also take the form of financial exploitation or intentional or unintentional neglect of an older adult by a caregiver. Det. Wherley also reported that some types of elder abuse include: 1) physical abuse, an intentional infliction of physical harm of an older person which can range from slapping an older adult to beatings to excessive forms of physical restraint (e.g. chaining); 2) material/financial abuse, the misuse, misappropriation, and/or exploitation of an older adults material (e.g. possessions, property) and/or monetary assets; 3) psychological or emotional abuse, the intentional infliction of mental harm and/or psychological distress upon the older adult which can range from insults and verbal assaults to threats of physical harm or isolation; 4) sexual abuse, any sexual activity for which the older person does not consent or is incapable of giving consent which can range from exhibitionism to fondling to oral, anal, or vaginal intercourse; and 5) self neglect, when the older person fails to meet their own physical, psychological, and/or social needs. She provided some case scenarios of elder abuse and cited a study by the National Center on Elder Abuse indicating

that for every elder abuse case that is reported and substantiated, five cases go unreported. She also noted that reports of elder abuse are increasing in the Seattle area.

BUSINESS MEETING

New Business

Timmie Faghin announced that Denise Klein asked for time at the next Advisory Council meeting to speak about the Senior Services Strategic Plan and Focus Groups.

Council Members expressed thanks to Ozell Bledsoe for an excellent job preparing the New Members Orientation Manuals and for coordinating the July 16th New Members Orientation meeting.

John Barnett suggested that: 1) Orientation Manuals be provided to “prospective” new members for review prior to the Orientation, and 2) a private orientation on funding could be arranged for new members.

Timmie announced Mayor Greg Nickels and the Seattle City Council invites Advisory Council members to the Boards and Commissions Reception Tuesday, August 17, 2004 in the City Hall, Bertha Knight Landes Room from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Timmie suggested the Nominating Committee needs to meet to select the 2005 nominations and present them at the October meeting.

John Barnett announced the “Baby Boomers & Beyond”: A Healthy Living Expo to held in Kirkland, WA Saturday, October 2, 2004 from 10 am to 3 pm and invited Council members to attend. He passed out brochures describing the activities.

COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS

Planning and Allocation Committee

Joanne Brekke reported the P&A Committee recommends final approval of the 2005 Discretionary Allocation Recommendations as submitted.

Action Taken: It was moved/seconded and passed that the 2005 Discretionary Allocation Recommendations be approval as submitted. Lisa Yeager abstained.

State Council on Aging

Joanne Brekke reported there was no State Advisory Council meeting in July and August. She reminded members of the Senior Lobby Day on Friday, October 15th at the SeaTac Hilton.

Outreach and Advocacy

Don Moreland expressed thanks to Linda Wells for a great job staffing the Legislative Forum Committee and reported the Committee recommends legalization of the importation of prescription drugs and urges the Advisory Council to act on SB 2328 by writing letters and sending e-mails to congressional members. Members agreed this topic would be appropriate to bring up for discussion at the Legislative Forum. For your consideration, a summary of SB 2328 is provided below.

Summary of S.2328: *Pharmaceutical Market Access and Drug Safety Act of 2004 - Amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise provisions governing the importation of prescription drugs. Requires the Secretary of Health and Human Services to promulgate regulations allowing the importation of prescription drugs by registered exporters or registered importers from Canada within 90 days of passage of this Act and from Australia, European Union countries, Japan, New Zealand, or Switzerland within one year; Provides for inspection, tracking of drugs, and registration and inspection fees for registered importers and exporters; Requires manufacturers to: (1) submit a statement to the Secretary explaining each difference between a drug approved and distributed in the United States and a related drug distributed in a foreign country; and (2) submit an application to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for approval of a related drug that is distributed in a foreign country if there is no comparable drug already approved in at least half of the permitted countries that can be imported to the United States; Allows for the immediate importation of prescription drugs for personal use from licensed Canadian pharmacies; Amends the Clayton Act to prohibit drug manufacturers from preventing importation by engaging in behavior such as charging higher prices or limiting supplies to registered exporters and importers or changing the form of the drug for such purpose; States that the resale in the United States of prescription drugs that were properly sold abroad is not patent infringement; Requires the Secretary of Homeland Security to refuse admission of drugs that violate importation provisions. Allows the destruction of certain violative shipments; and Amends the Controlled Substances Act to repeal the exemption that permitted individuals to import controlled substances for personal medical use.*

Health Care Task Force

Larry Verhei reported the August meeting is cancelled. The DSHS Cash and Counseling grant has been delayed. Next month (September 10th) the HCTF will hold a joint meeting with the O/A Committee.

Technology Committee

No August report

Timmie Faghin reported the October 8th Council meeting will focus on Social and Civic Engagement and suggested inviting special guest to encourage people to vote and urge people to consider using absentee ballots. She also suggested a booth be made available at the Legislative Forum for voter registrations and filing for absentee ballots.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pam Piering reported on: 1) the National Area Agency on Aging Association (N4A) Conference in Atlanta including participation on a Healthy Aging panel and announced that the Administration on Aging is fascinated with our AAA, saying "we look great abroad"; 2) Pam reminded members that Thursday, October 14th is W4A Advisory Council Day and Friday, October 15th is Senior Lobby Day. She also provided an update on State Medicaid budget issues; and 3) Pam announced new grants ADS staff are currently working on include the "ABC Coalition Grant" by Linda Wells and the "Office of Minority Health Diabetes & Obesity Grant"

by Rosemary Cunningham; and 4) she announced the upcoming TV showing of And Thou Shalt Honor September 9th on Channel 9 (check your local TV guide for the exact times showing in your area).

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

Program Topic:
REVIEW 2004-07 AREA PLAN

Friday, September 10, 2004
12:00 – 2:00 p.m.
13th Floor Conference Room
Alaska Building
618 Second Ave, Seattle, WA 98104
www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

Gabriel Cohen, Vice Chair _____ **Approved 9/03/04**